

# EPSON®

## STYLUS COLOR IIs

COLOR INK JET PRINTER

### *Setup Guide*

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10/95



Printed on recycled paper with at least 10% post-consumer content

### **FCC Compliance Statement For United States Users**

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio or television reception. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio and television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures.

- ☐ Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- ☐ Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- ☐ Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- ☐ Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

### **WARNING**

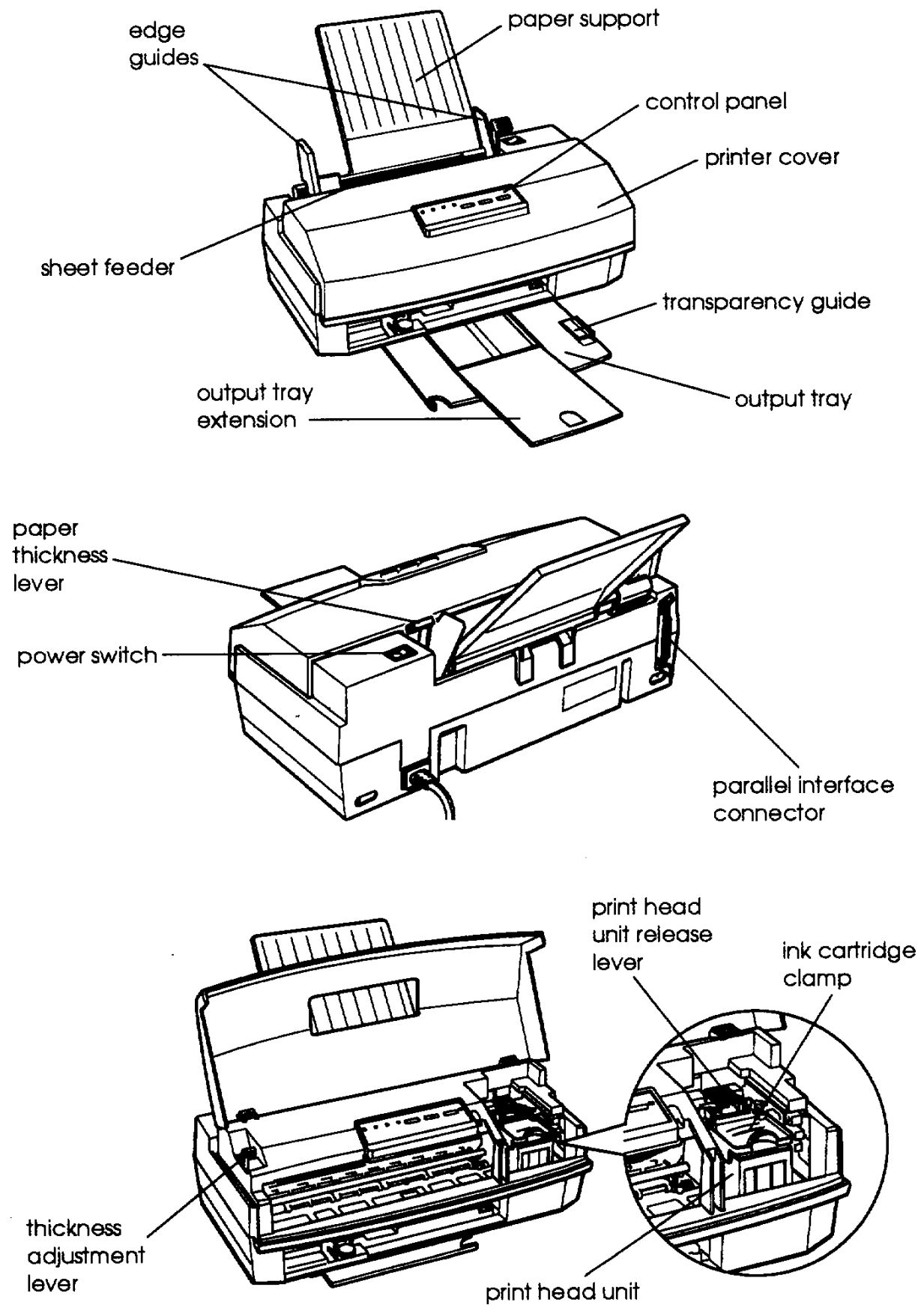
The connection of a non-shielded equipment interface cable to this equipment will invalidate the FCC Certification of this device and may cause interference levels which exceed the limits established by the FCC for this equipment. It is the responsibility of the user to obtain and use a shielded equipment interface cable with this device. If this equipment has more than one interface connector, do not leave cables connected to unused interfaces. Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

### **For Canadian Users**

This digital apparatus does not exceed the Class B limits for radio noise emissions from digital apparatus as set out in the radio interference regulations of the Canadian Department of Communications.

Le présent appareil numérique n'émet pas de bruits radioélectriques dépassant les limites applicables aux appareils numériques de Classe B prescrites dans le règlement sur le brouillage radioélectrique édicté par le Ministère des Communications du Canada.

## Printer Parts



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## ***Important Safety Instructions***

Before using your printer, read the following safety instructions to make sure you use the printer safely and effectively.

- ❑ Turn off and unplug the printer before cleaning. Clean with a damp cloth only. Do not spill liquid on the printer.
- ❑ Do not place the printer on an unstable surface or near a radiator or heat register.
- ❑ Do not block or cover the openings in the printer's cabinet. Do not insert objects through the slots.
- ❑ Use only the type of power source indicated on the printer's label.
- ❑ Connect all equipment to properly grounded power outlets. Avoid using outlets on the same circuit as photocopiers or air control systems that regularly switch on and off.
- ❑ Do not let the power cord become damaged or frayed.
- ❑ If you use an extension cord with the printer, make sure the total ampere rating of the devices plugged into the extension cord does not exceed the cord's ampere rating. Also, make sure the total of all devices plugged into the wall outlet does not exceed 15 amperes.
- ❑ Except as specifically explained in this *Setup Guide*, do not attempt to service the printer yourself.
- ❑ Unplug the printer and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:

If the power cord or plug is damaged; if liquid has entered the printer; if the printer has been dropped or the cabinet damaged; if the printer does not operate normally or exhibits a distinct change in performance. Adjust only those controls that are covered by the operating instructions.

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## **Introduction**

This book describes how to quickly set up your EPSON® Stylus® COLOR IIs ink jet printer and install the printer driver. You'll also learn what to expect if you are new to color printing.

For complete information about using your printer, including how to use the driver software, see the *User's Guide*.

If you have questions about your printer, see "Where to Get Help" in your *User's Guide*.

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## **System Requirements**

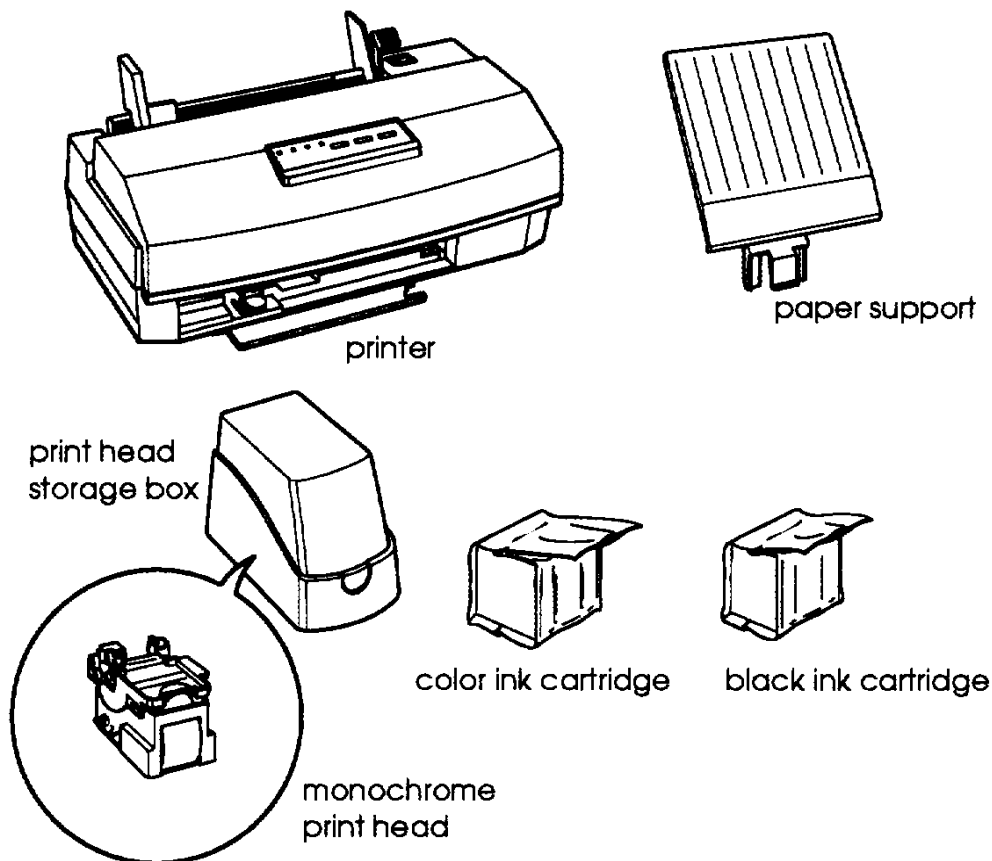
To use your printer and its driver, we recommend that you have:

- ☐ 80386/25 MHz or faster processor
- ☐ Microsoft® Windows® 3.1, Windows for Workgroups 3.1, or Windows 95
- ☐ At least 8MB of available RAM (more for Windows 95)
- ☐ A minimum of 10MB of hard disk space for storing images (40MB or more is recommended)
- ☐ VGA or higher standard monitor
- ☐ A shielded, twisted-pair parallel cable to connect your computer to the printer's parallel interface; the cable must have a D-SUB, 25-pin, male connector for your computer and a 36-pin, Centronics® compatible connector for the printer.

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## Unpacking the Printer

In addition to this guide, your printer box should include the Windows printer driver diskette, a *User's Guide*, a Notice Sheet, a registration card, sample sheets of EPSON special coated paper for 720 dpi printing, and these items:



You must remove all protective materials packed around and inside your printer before you set it up and turn on the power. Follow the directions on the Notice Sheet packed with the printer.

Save all packaging and protective materials in case you need to ship the printer in the future. It should always be transported in its original packaging or equivalent materials.

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## ***Setting Up the Printer***

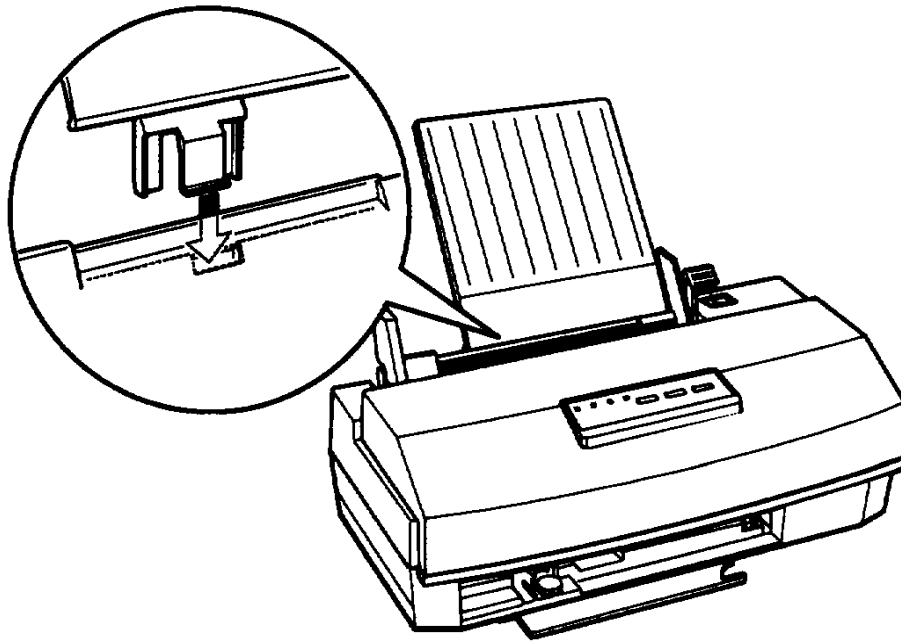
The following installation procedures describe how to set up and test the printer before you connect it to your computer. Refer to the illustrations on the inside front cover of this manual to identify the main components while setting it up.

When choosing a location for the printer select a surface that is flat, horizontal, and stable.

Avoid locations subject to rapid changes in temperature and humidity. Also keep the printer away from direct sunlight, heat sources, and sources of electromagnetic interference, such as the base unit of a cordless telephone.

## ***Attaching the Paper Support***

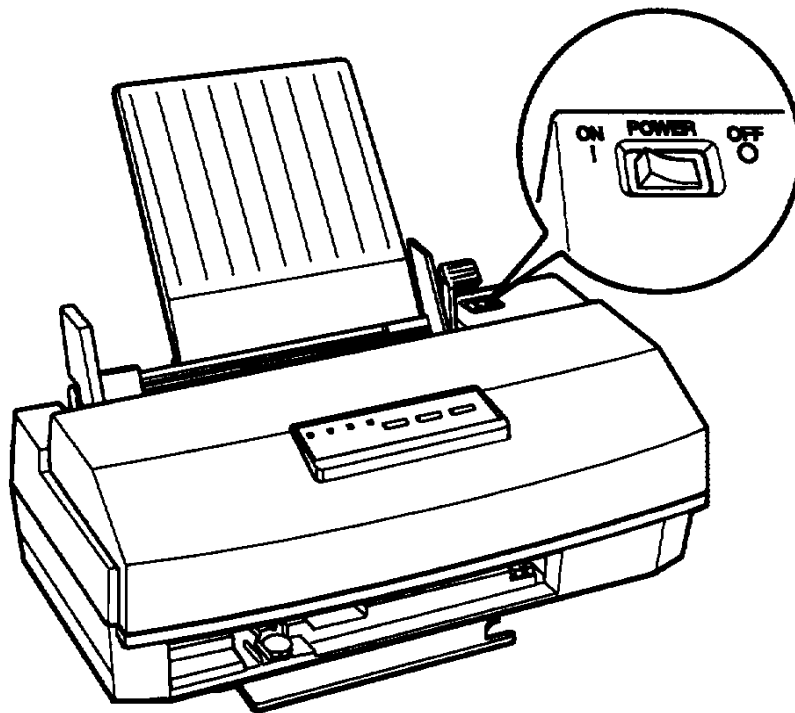
Insert the paper support into the central slot at the back of the printer. Tilt the paper support slightly forward while inserting it.



## ***Plugging In and Turning On the Printer***

Follow these steps to plug in and turn on your printer:

1. Make sure you have removed all protective packing materials from inside the printer. (See the Notice Sheet for more information.)
2. Make sure the printer is turned off by checking the position of the POWER switch, as shown below.



3. Plug the power cord into a properly grounded electrical outlet.
4. Turn on the printer by pressing the POWER switch.

***Note:***

*The Error and Pause lights flash to indicate that no ink cartridge is installed.*

## Charging the Ink Delivery System

Your printer comes with a color print head, installed in the printer, and a monochrome print head, packed in the plastic storage box. Each print head holds a color or black ink cartridge. When you want to print in color, install the color print head unit with the color ink cartridge in the printer. When you want to print in black, install the monochrome print head unit and black ink cartridge in the printer.

**Note:**

*When printing a page that does not include color, using the black ink cartridge is much faster and more economical. However, the color ink cartridge can print composite black. Composite black is a mixture of the inks in the color ink cartridge and closely resembles black ink.*

When you first set up the printer, you need to completely charge its ink delivery system by first installing the color ink cartridge and then replacing it with the black print head unit and cartridge. Follow all the steps in this section.

**Note:**

*Even if you don't plan to use the black ink cartridge immediately, you still need to install it to charge the ink delivery system.*

Once both ink delivery systems are charged, you can easily switch between color and monochrome printing as needed. Follow the instructions in Chapter 3 of the *User's Guide*.



**Warning:**

*The ink cartridges are self-contained units. Under ordinary use, ink will not leak from a cartridge. If ink gets on your hands, wash them thoroughly with soap and water. If ink gets into your eyes, flush them immediately with water.*



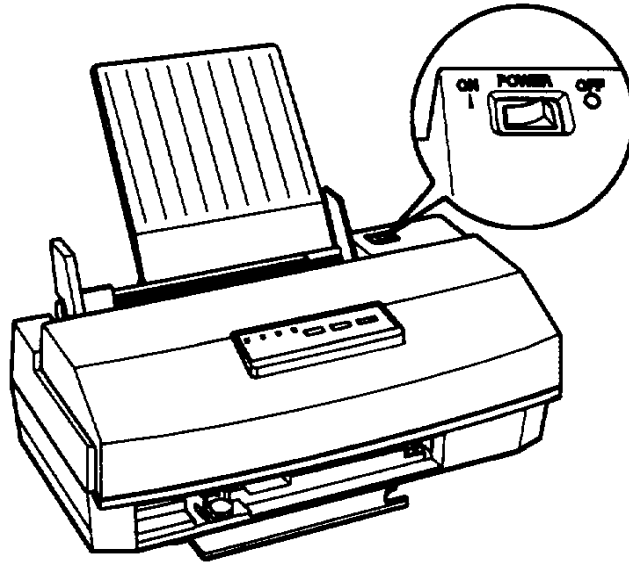
**Caution:**

*Do not open the ink cartridge packages until just before you install them or they may become too dry.*

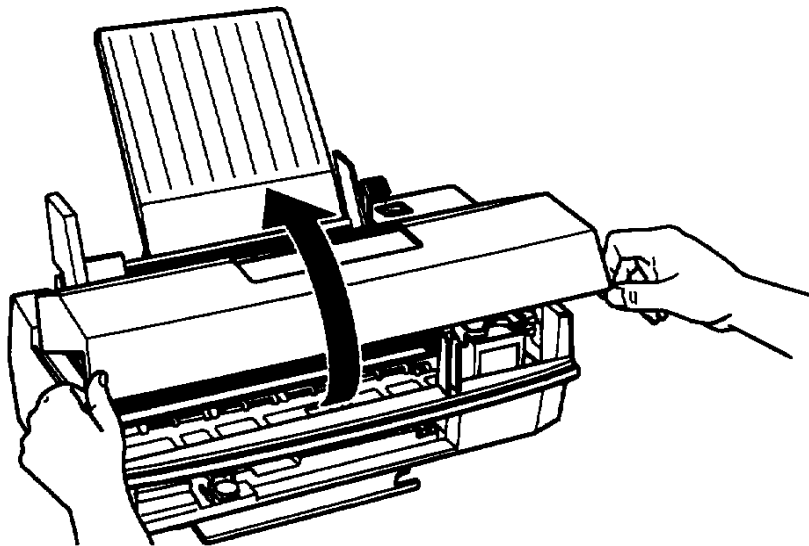
## ***Installing the color ink cartridge***

Follow these steps to install the color ink cartridge:

1. Make sure the printer is turned on.



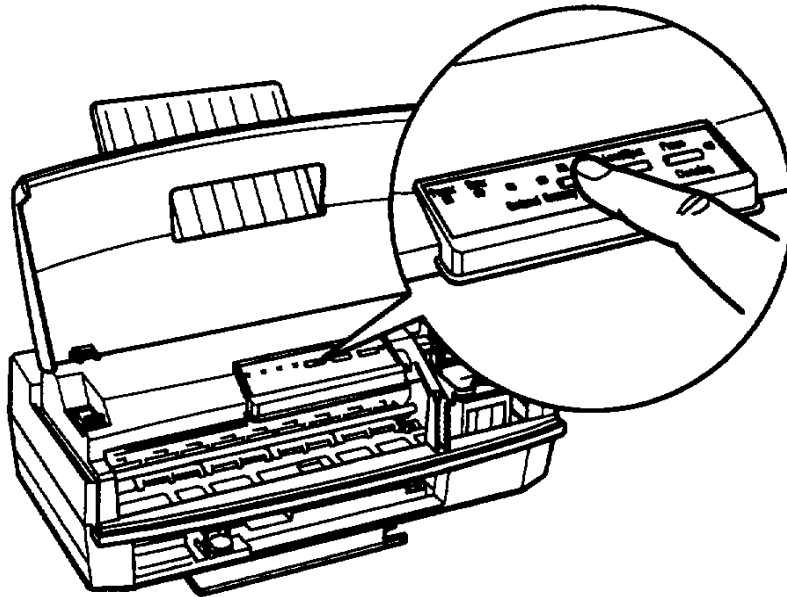
2. Raise the printer cover by lifting the edges, as shown below.



### ***Warning:***

*Never insert your hand into the paper path behind the center of the cover; you may damage the printer or injure your hand.*

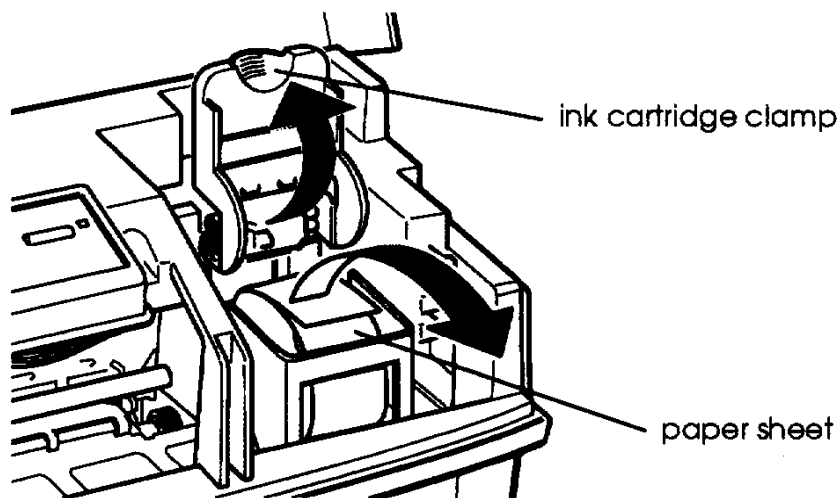
3. Hold down the Alt button for about five seconds until the print head moves slightly left, to the ink cartridge install position. The Pause light begins flashing.



**Caution:**

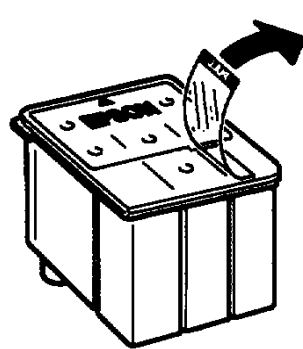
*Never move the print head by hand; always use the Alt button to move it.*

4. Raise the ink cartridge clamp to open the print head unit.

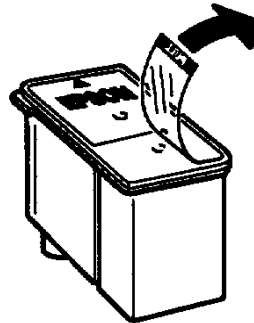


5. Remove the protective paper sheet.

6. Open the foil ink cartridge packages and take out the cartridges. Remove the tape seal from the top of each one. Set the black cartridge aside for now.



color cartridge



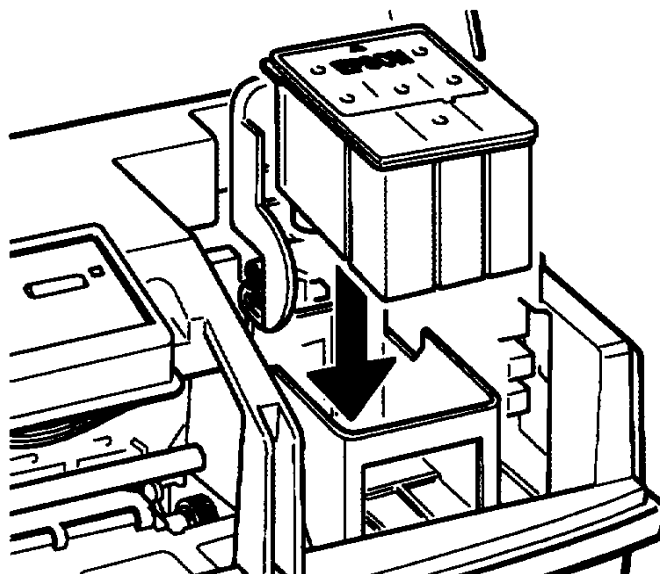
black cartridge



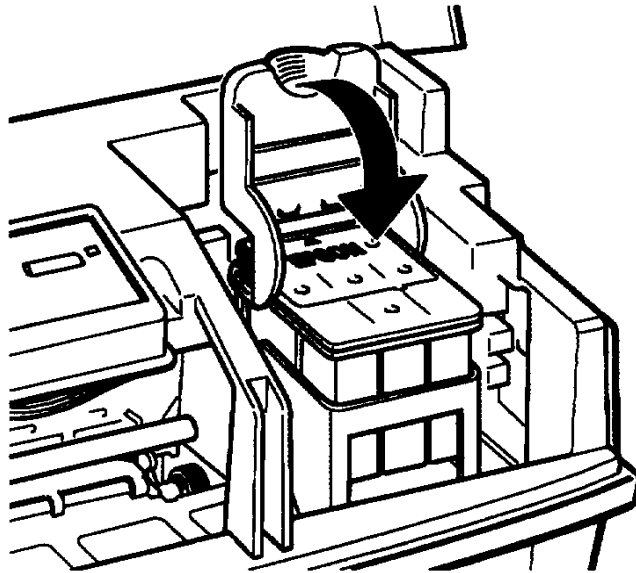
**Caution:**

*You must remove the tape seal from the top of each cartridge; leaving the tape on will permanently damage a cartridge. Do not remove the clear seal from the bottom of the cartridge; ink will leak out.*

7. Lower the color ink cartridge into the print head unit with the label facing up and the arrow on the top of the cartridge pointing toward the back of the printer.



8. Press down the ink cartridge clamp until it locks in place. You will feel some resistance.



**Caution:**

- ☐ Once you install an ink cartridge, do not open the ink cartridge clamp again or remove the cartridge except to replace it with a new one. Once you remove a cartridge, do not reuse it. Reusing a cartridge that has been removed may damage the print head.
  - ☐ When you discard an ink cartridge, always remove it from the print head unit first. Do not discard the print head unit.
9. Press the Alt button again to return the print head to its home position. (Even if you do not press Alt, the print head moves back to its home position about 60 seconds after you close the clamp.)

After you install the color ink cartridge, the printer charges the ink delivery system. This takes about one minute. During this time, the Pause light flashes. When the printer is finished charging, the Pause light stays on without flashing.



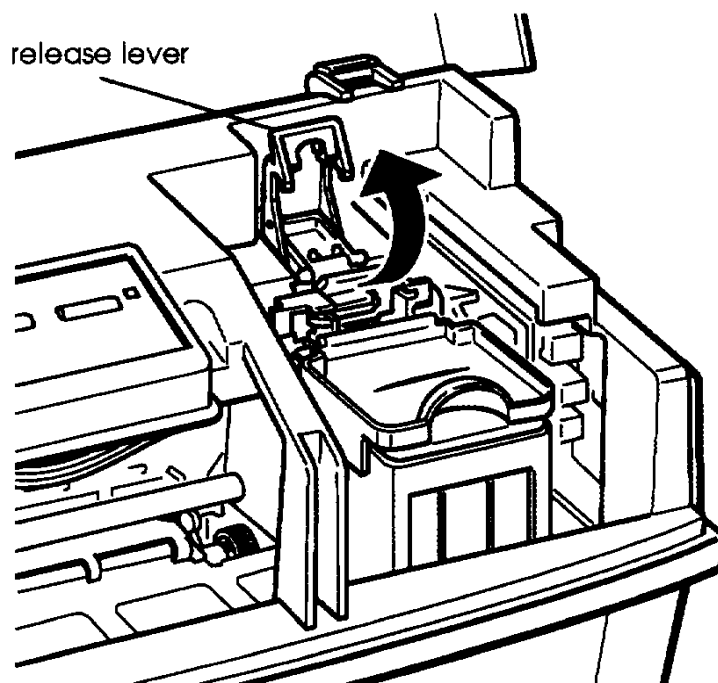
**Caution:**

*Never turn off the printer while the Pause light is flashing.*

### ***Installing the black ink cartridge***

Follow these steps to remove the color print head unit and install the monochrome print head unit and black ink cartridge:

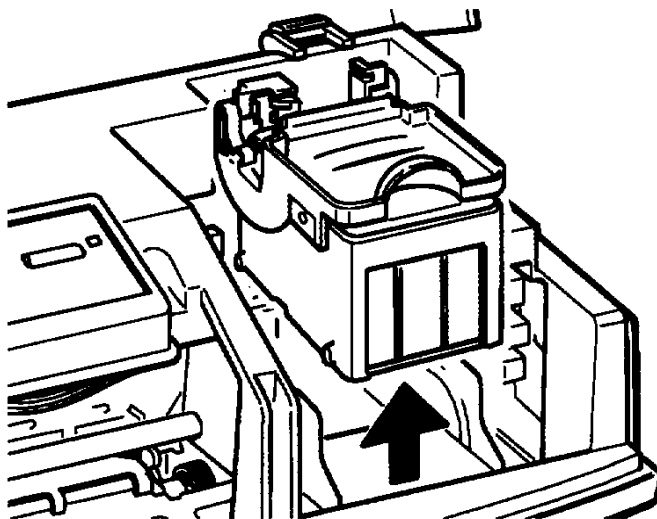
1. Make sure the printer is on and the printer cover is open.
2. Press the Pause button until the Pause light comes on.
3. Hold down the Alt button for about five seconds until the print head unit moves left slightly to the ink cartridge install position. The Pause light flashes.
4. Raise the blue print head unit release lever as far as it will go.



**Caution:**

*Do not lift up the ink cartridge clamp; the ink cartridge and print head may become unusable.*

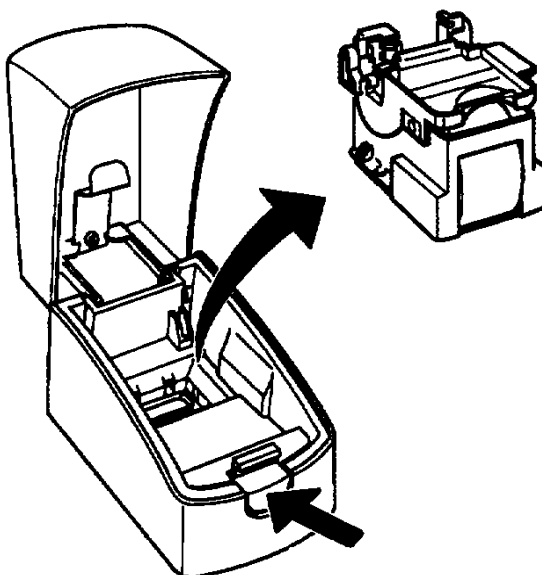
5. Grasp both sides of the print head unit and carefully lift it out of the printer. Place the print head unit on a flat, clean surface.



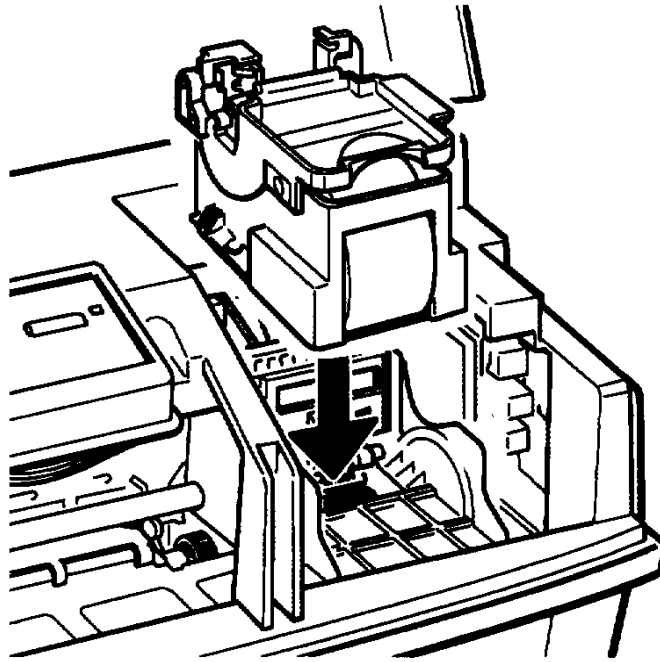
**Caution:**

*Do not touch the electrical contacts on the back and bottom of the print head unit or inside the printer; you may damage them.*

6. Remove the monochrome print head unit from its storage box by pressing on the notch as shown. Place the color print head unit in the box. Always store the unused print head unit in this box to protect its delicate components.



7. Carefully insert the monochrome print head unit into the printer with the electrical contacts and print head facing the back of the printer.



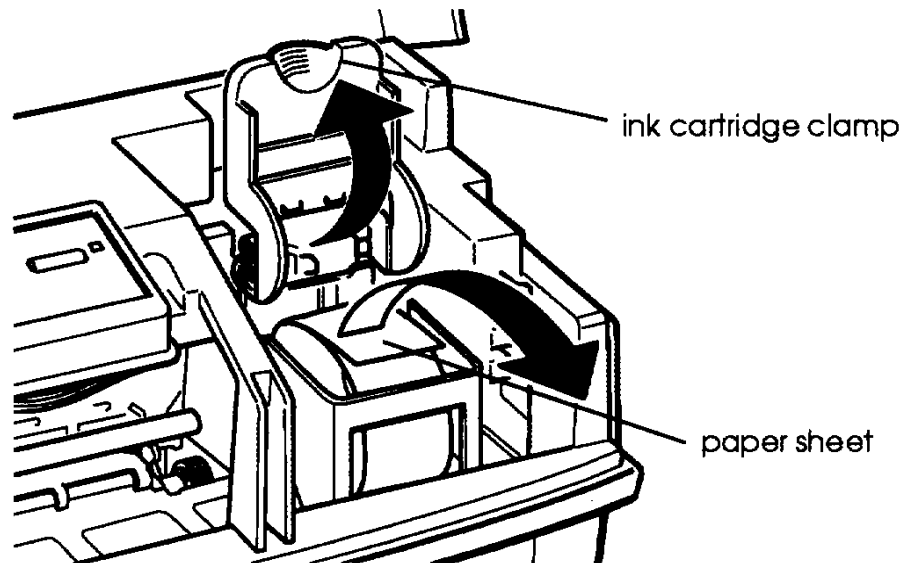
8. When the print head unit is fully seated, press down the blue print head release lever until it clicks into place.



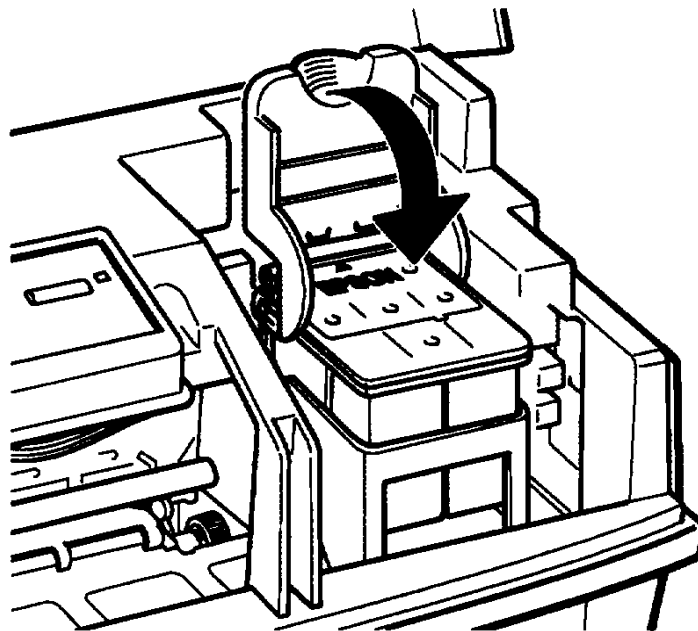
**Caution:**

*Make sure that the Error and Pause lights are not flashing. If they flash, you must remove the print head unit (beginning at step 4) and reinsert it.*

9. Open the ink cartridge clamp and remove the protective paper sheet.



10. Lower the black ink cartridge into the print head unit with the label facing up and the arrow on the top of the cartridge pointing toward the back of the printer.
11. Press down the ink cartridge clamp until it locks in place. You will feel some resistance.





**Caution:**

*Once you install an ink cartridge, do not open the ink cartridge clamp or remove the cartridge except to replace it with a new one. Once you remove a cartridge, do not reuse it. Reusing a cartridge that has been removed may damage the print head.*

12. Press the Alt button again to return the print head to its home position. (Even if you do not press Alt, the printer moves the print head back to its home position about 60 seconds after you close the clamp.)

After you install the black ink cartridge, the printer charges the ink delivery system. This takes about one minute. During this time, the Pause light flashes. When the printer finishes charging, the Pause light stays on without flashing.



**Caution:**

*Make sure the printer completes the ink charging process even if you plan to reinstall the color print head unit. If the charging process is not completed, the printer may be damaged.*

13. Close the printer cover.



**Caution:**

- ❑ *Never turn off the printer while the Pause light is flashing.*
- ❑ *When you discard an ink cartridge, always remove it from the print head unit first. Do not discard the print head unit.*
- ❑ *When you switch between print head units, always leave the ink cartridge installed. Once you remove a cartridge, do not reuse it. Reusing a cartridge that has been removed may damage the print head.*
- ❑ *Use only genuine EPSON ink cartridges and do not refill. Other products may cause damage not covered by EPSON's warranty.*

When you want to print in color again, replace the monochrome print head unit with the color print head unit as described in Chapter 3 of the *User's Guide*.

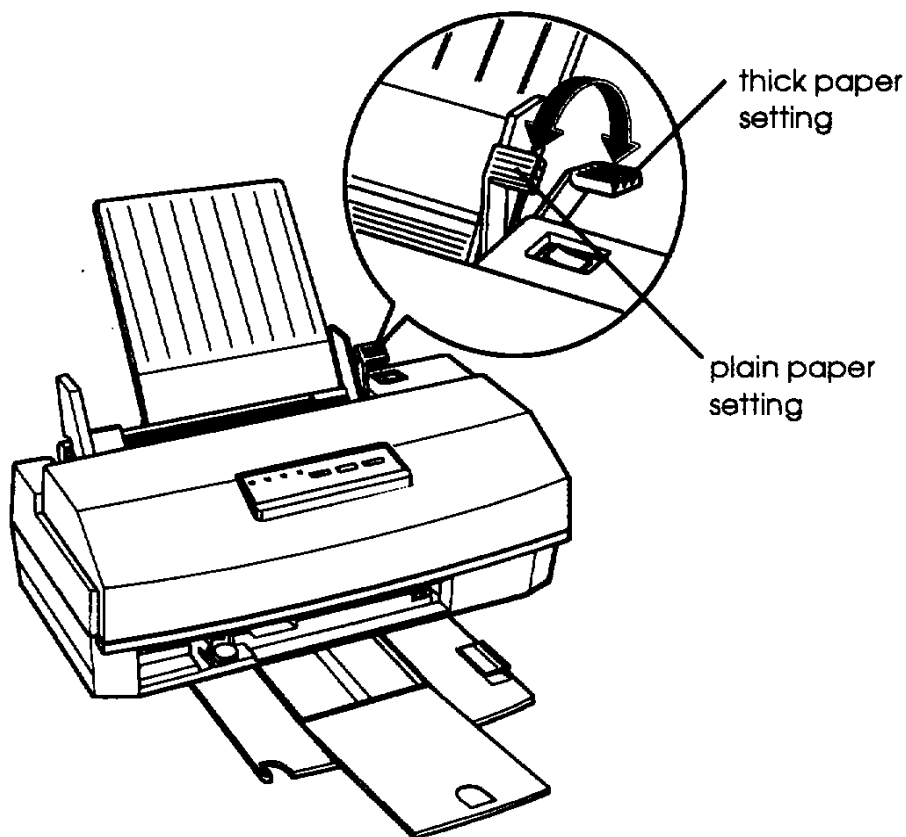
In order to maintain optimum print quality, the printer periodically performs a cleaning operation. You may notice the cleaning cycle being performed when the printer has been on for a while without being used or when you turn it on after it has been off for a while.

You may also need to manually activate a cleaning cycle if you notice a decline in print quality. See Chapter 3 of the *User's Guide* for more information.

## Checking the Paper Thickness Lever

After you charge the ink delivery system, you should make sure that the paper thickness lever, which controls the distance between the paper and the printer carriage, is set correctly.

The paper thickness lever is the blue lever on top of the printer, next to the paper support. For now, it should be set to the plain paper setting.



For instructions on setting the lever for thick paper (or other special media), see Chapter 1 of the *User's Guide*.

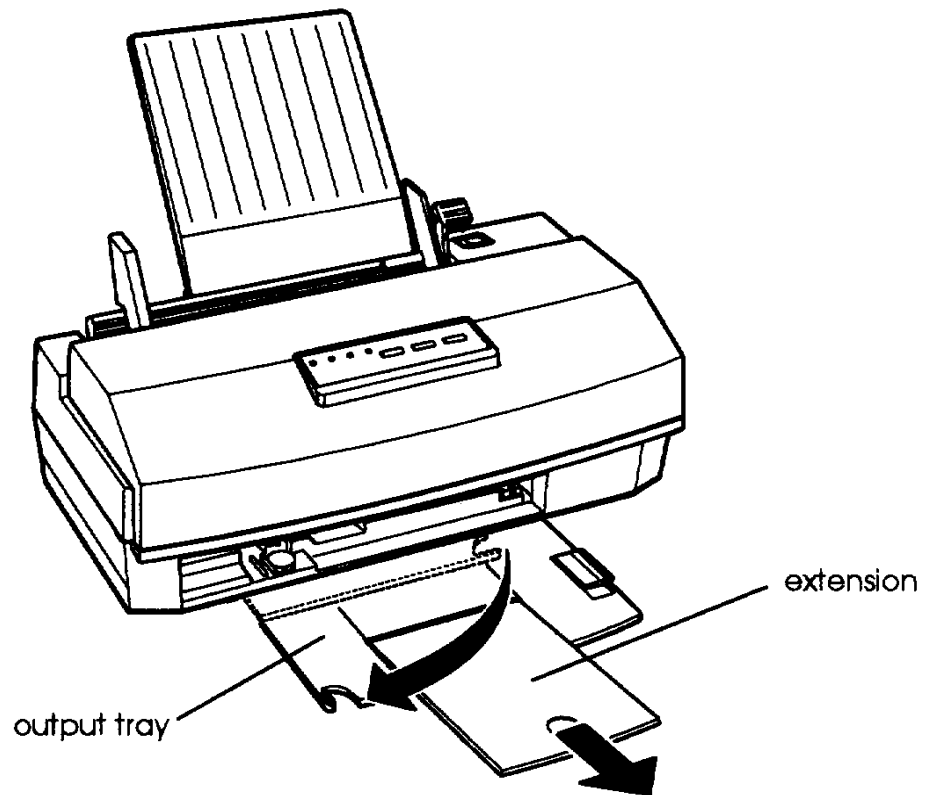
## Loading Paper

The following procedure explains how to load plain bond paper. You can load up to 100 sheets of plain paper in the sheet feeder.

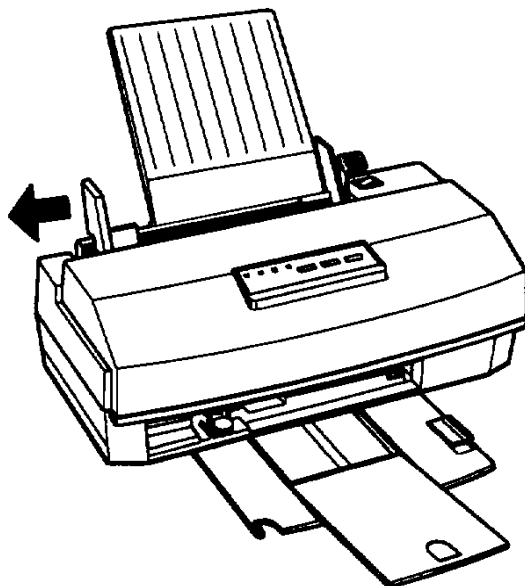
For instructions on loading coated or glossy paper, envelopes, transparencies, or for feeding paper one page at a time, see Chapter 1 of the *User's Guide*. For paper specifications, see Appendix A of the *User's Guide*.

Always load plain paper with the printable surface facing up. The printable surface is marked with an arrow on most plain paper packaging.

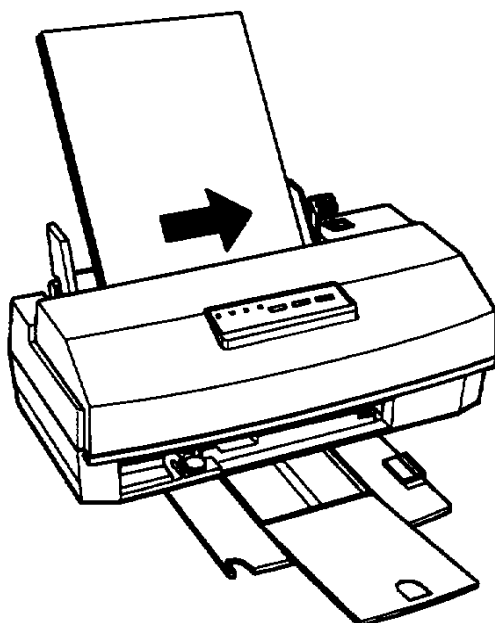
1. Slide out the output tray located at the bottom of the printer; then pull out the extension.



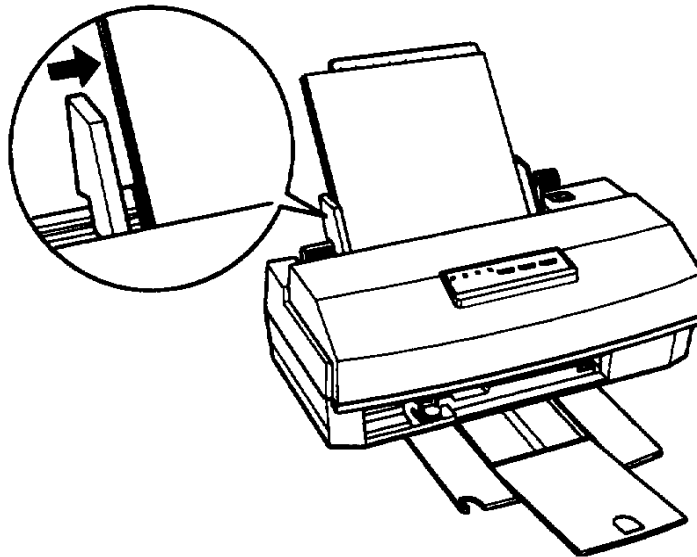
2. Slide the left edge guide on the sheet feeder to the left as far as it will go.



3. Fan a stack of paper; then tap it on a flat surface to even the edges.
4. Load the stack of paper, printable side up, so that its right edge rests against the right side of the sheet feeder. Do not load paper above the arrow mark inside the left edge guide of the sheet feeder.



5. Slide the left edge guide against the left edge of the paper as shown below.



## **Testing the Printer**

Before continuing, test the printer to make sure it is functioning properly. For the self test, use paper that is at least 8.25 inches (210 mm) wide.

1. Press the POWER switch to turn off the printer.



### **Caution:**

*Never turn off the printer by unplugging it or turning off a power strip. Always turn off the printer by pressing the POWER switch.*

2. Hold down the Load/Eject button while pressing the POWER switch to turn on the printer. Keep holding down Load/Eject until the printer feeds a page.

The 360 dpi (dots per inch) test begins by printing in black on the first and last lines of the first sheet of paper to measure the page length. Then it prints character samples on the next sheet using the available fonts and, when the color print head is installed, available colors.

3. To end the self test, press the Pause button and then turn off the printer. Otherwise, the test continues until the paper in the sheet feeder runs out. (If a partial page feeds before you press Pause, press Load/Eject to clear the paper path.)



**Caution:**

*Do not turn off the printer before pressing the Pause button.*

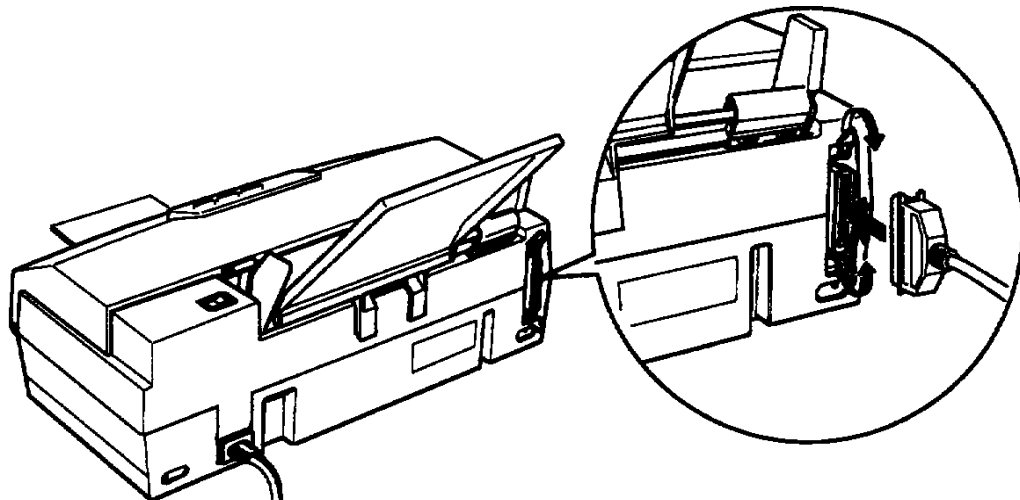
If the quality of the test output is not good, you may need to run a cleaning cycle to clean the print heads. (It may take as many as five cleaning cycles to fully solve the problem.) See Chapter 3 of the *User's Guide*.

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## ***Connecting the Printer to Your Computer***

You need a shielded, twisted-pair parallel cable to connect your computer to the printer's built-in parallel interface. The cable must have a D-SUB, 25-pin, male connector for your computer and a 36-pin, Centronics compatible connector for the printer.

1. Make sure both the printer and computer are turned off.
2. Plug the 36-pin end of the cable securely into the printer's interface connector. Then squeeze the wire clips together until they lock in place on both sides.



If your cable has a ground wire, attach it to the ground connector below the interface connector.

3. Plug the 25-pin end of the cable into the computer's parallel interface. See the instructions in your computer manual, if necessary.
4. Turn on the printer by pressing the POWER switch and then turn on your computer.

---

## ***Installing the Printer Software***

This section describes how to install the printer driver and its utilities. You'll use the printer driver to control printer settings such as media type, document type, printing mode, and halftoning. You must install the printer driver that came with your printer before you can use the printer.

Also included on the diskette are two utilities: the EPSON Spool Manager and the Bi-D Calibration Utility. When you install the printer software, the EPSON Spool Manager is automatically copied to your hard disk. You can copy the Bi-D Calibration Utility to your hard disk or run it from the diskette when needed. See Chapters 2 and 3 of the *User's Guide* for instructions on running these utilities.

### ***Note:***

*Be sure to make a backup copy of the driver diskette.*

If you are using Windows 3.1, follow the steps in the next section to install the printer software. If you are using Windows 95, see page 24. (To use the printer with DOS applications, see page 27.)

## ***Installing the Printer Software for Windows 3.1***

Follow these steps to install the Windows printer software for Windows 3.1:

1. Turn on your printer and computer.
2. Make sure Windows is running.
3. Insert the Windows printer driver diskette in a diskette drive.
4. In the File menu, select Run. You see the Run dialog box.
5. In the Command Line box, type **A:SETUP** (or **B:SETUP** if you inserted the diskette in drive B). Press **Enter** or click **OK**. You see the EPSON Printer Driver Setup dialog box.
6. Highlight Epson Stylus COLOR IIs in the Printer Driver pull-down menu and click **Continue**. The installation program begins copying the driver files. You see a screen showing the progress of the installation as it proceeds.

After a few moments, the installation program creates the EPSON program group in Windows containing these three icons:

Spool Manager  
EPSON Stylus Help  
EPSON Stylus ReadMe

When the installation is complete, you see a confirmation screen.

7. Click **OK** to exit the installation program.

The installation program automatically selects the EPSON Stylus COLOR IIs printer as your default printer for Windows applications. It also assigns the printer driver to the LPT1 port. If you need to change the default printer driver or the port assignment, see the next section.

**Note:**

*If you install the printer driver using Windows 3.1 and will upgrade to Windows 95, be sure to reinstall the driver using the steps beginning on page 24 after you install Windows 95. This sets up the driver correctly for Windows 95.*

Now you can access the driver from your Windows programs to control your printer settings; see Chapter 2 of the *User's Guide* for instructions.

### ***Changing the default printer or printer port***

If you do not want to use the EPSON Stylus COLOR IIs printer driver as your default printer in Windows or if you want to assign it to a different printer port, follow these steps:

1. In the Main window, double-click the Control Panel icon.
2. Double-click the Printers icon. The Printers dialog box appears.
3. In the Installed Printers pull-down list, select the printer you want to use as your default printer.
4. Click the Set As Default Printer button.

If you do not need to change the printer port assignment for the EPSON Stylus COLOR IIs printer, go to step 9.

5. To change the port assignment, select EPSON Stylus COLOR IIs in the Installed Printer pull-down list.
6. Click the Connect button. You see the Connect dialog box.
7. In the Ports pull-down list, select the port to which you want to assign the EPSON Stylus COLOR IIs printer. (See the Windows Control Panel Help utility for instructions on selecting other options in the Connect dialog box.)

8. Click OK to close the Connect dialog box.
9. Click Close to exit the Printers dialog box.
10. Exit the Control Panel.

See Chapter 2 of the *User's Guide* for instructions on using the printer driver.

## ***Installing the Printer Software for Windows 95***

Follow these steps to install the printer driver using the Windows 95 plug-and-play capabilities. Then follow the steps in the next section to run the EPSON Printer Driver Setup program to install the printer driver utilities and create an EPSON folder on your hard disk.

1. Make sure plain paper is loaded and the printer is connected to the computer's parallel port. (The paper is used to perform a test print in step 12.)
2. Turn off the printer and your computer, if necessary.
3. Turn on the printer first; then turn on the computer. Your computer begins loading Windows 95.
4. If you defined a password in Windows 95, enter it at the prompt. You see the New Hardware Found screen.
5. Your printer model name is displayed on the screen. Click the Driver from disk provided by hardware manufacturer button. Do not select any of the other buttons.
6. Click OK. You see the Install From Disk screen.
7. Insert the Windows printer driver diskette that came with your printer in a diskette drive.

8. If you inserted the diskette in drive A, click OK. Otherwise, change the drive letter in the Copy manufacturer's files from box and click OK. You see the Select Device screen.
9. Make sure your printer model name is selected in the Models pull-down list and click OK.
10. At the next screen you can give the printer a unique name. We recommend that you keep the model name, but you can type a new one in the Printer name box, if desired.

To use the printer as the default printer for all Windows 95 applications, select Yes (No is the default).

11. Click the Next button.
12. At next screen, select Yes to print a test page.
13. Click the Finish button. The program copies the files to your hard disk and adds an icon using the printer name to the Windows 95 Printers group.
14. Select Yes again at the test page confirmation screen if the page printed correctly. (If it did not print correctly, there is probably a problem with the printer connection; check the connection and start over.)

Then your computer finishes loading Windows 95.

Your printer driver is now installed. To install the rest of your printer software and create an EPSON program folder for your software, follow the steps in the next section.

## ***Running the setup program***

Follow these steps to install the printer software and create an EPSON folder on your hard disk:

1. If necessary, insert the Windows printer driver diskette in a diskette drive.
2. Click Start; then select Run. You see the Run dialog box.
3. In the Open pull-down menu, type A:SETUP (or B:SETUP if the disk is in drive B), and click OK. You see the EPSON Printer Driver Setup dialog box.
4. Highlight your printer model name in the Printer Driver pull-down menu and click Continue.
5. The installation program begins copying the files and shows the progress of the installation as it proceeds. When the status bar disappears, the installation continues for a minute or so. Wait until the EPSON folder and EPSON Printer Driver Setup confirmation screen appears. Then click OK on the confirmation screen to exit the installation program.

Your printer driver is now your default Windows printer on parallel port LPT1. If you need to change your default printer driver or the port assignment, see your Windows 95 online help utility for instructions.

The EPSON folder contains these icons:

Spool Manager  
EPSON Stylus Help  
EPSON Stylus ReadMe

## ***Installing a Driver for DOS Programs***

Most DOS software programs include drivers for EPSON ESC/P 2™ printers. If the Stylus COLOR IIs driver is not listed, choose the first printer available in your software from the lists below. Also check with your software manufacturer to see if a Stylus COLOR IIs driver is available or is included with a new version of your software.

When printing in color as well as black and white, select:

LQ-860  
LQ-2550

When printing black and white only, select:

LQ-870/1170  
LQ-570(+)/1070(+)  
SQ-870/1070  
LQ-850  
LQ-500

### ***Note:***

*These drivers let you use your printer but do not support some Stylus COLOR IIs features, such as 720 dpi and MicroWeave.*

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## ***If You Are New to Color Printing***

Color printing with the EPSON Stylus COLOR IIs produces amazing images, whether you print text, line drawings, photographs, or documents containing many different image types. However you use your color printer, keep the following in mind:

- ❑ You need to leave a large amount of hard disk drive space free to make room for your color images. A full-page color photographic image, for example, may require 40MB or more of disk space, depending on the resolution. If you need to reduce the file size, you can decrease the size and resolution of your images using your printer driver and application software.
- ❑ Color printing takes time because of the complex processing required to create a color image. How much time depends on the size and type of your image, the resolution you use, the speed of your computer, and the interface type. However, the fantastic results make the time invested well worth it.
- ❑ Your screen colors will not exactly match the printed colors because your monitor screen and the printer use different methods to produce the colors you see. If you scan images using a scanner, the image goes through another interpretive process that also affects the color.

Monitors and scanners produce colors by combining red, green, and blue—the RGB method. Your monitor can produce up to 16 million colors by turning on and off the tiny, red, green, and blue phosphors contained in each pixel on the screen. Color produced this way differs from color produced by your printer's cyan, magenta, and yellow ink colors—the CMY method.

Your printer driver's Document Type setting helps you closely match colors as appropriate for your image type, resolution, and paper or other media.

If you need extreme precision in matching colors, you can use a color calibration system available with many software applications. If you use a scanner, make sure your scanning software is set to the correct setting for ink jet printers to help you match colors. Also, your application may include image editing capabilities that let you adjust the colors.

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## **Printing Options**

The printer supports a wide variety of settings that you can control through the printer driver. Read this section to learn about printing options that affect the look of your printed output. For complete information on all your printer's features and printing options, see the *User's Guide*.

## **Resolution Settings**

Resolution is a measure of the amount of detail that can be represented on a printed page. The higher the resolution, the more detailed and realistic the image, and the longer it takes to print.

The printer has three resolution settings, or printing modes: 720 dpi, 360 dpi, and 180 dpi. Use 720 dpi for the best possible images. For high-quality images in less time, use 360 dpi. When speed is important and draft quality is good enough, use 180 dpi. For guidelines on selecting the best resolution for your print jobs, see Chapter 2 of the *User's Guide*.

## ***Automatic Printer Driver Settings***

The printer includes an Automatic Document Type option that sets the Print Head Unit, Color Matching, and Halftone printer driver settings for you, as described in Chapter 2 of the *User's Guide*. When set, the driver analyzes the elements on a page to be printed and automatically adjusts the settings so your printed results are appropriate for the image type.